State of Arizona Senate Forty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session 2001

SENATE BILL 1331

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 9-240.01; RELATING TO MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Title 9, chapter 2, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 9-240.01, to read:

9-240.01. <u>Civil enforcement of municipal ordinances</u>

A CITY OR TOWN THAT CLASSIFIES ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS AS CIVIL OFFENSES SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO HEAR AND DETERMINE THESE VIOLATIONS THAT MAY INCLUDE:

- 1. FILING OF A COMPLAINT BEFORE A HEARING OFFICER. THE CITY OR TOWN MAGISTRATE MAY SERVE AS A HEARING OFFICER OR THE CITY OR TOWN MAY APPOINT A SEPARATE HEARING OFFICER.
- 2. TIMELY NOTICE OF THE CITATION TO THE VIOLATOR. IF THE CITY OR TOWN IS UNABLE TO PERSONALLY SERVE THE NOTICE, THE NOTICE MAY BE SERVED IN THE SAME MANNER PRESCRIBED FOR ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF SERVICE BY THE ARIZONA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE OR BY CERTIFIED OR REGISTERED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED.
- 3. PROCEDURES FOR THE HEARING, RECORD ON APPEAL, DEFAULT BY A DEFENDANT AND RULES OF EVIDENCE THAT GENERALLY COMPLY WITH THOSE FOR CIVIL TRAFFIC OFFENSES.
- 4. IMPOSITION OF A CIVIL PENALTY. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING, THE HEARING OFFICER SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER A VIOLATION EXISTS AND, IF SO, MAY IMPOSE CIVIL PENALTIES OF UP TO THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN SECTION 9-240 FOR ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS FOR EACH DAY A VIOLATION EXISTS BEYOND THE INITIAL NOTICE CONSTITUTING A SEPARATE OFFENSE. THE HEARING OFFICER MAY ALSO ORDER ABATEMENT OF THE VIOLATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 9-499.
- 5. A PROVISION THAT IF THE VIOLATOR DOES NOT COMPLY WITH A CIVIL ENFORCEMENT ACTION, THE CITY OR TOWN MAY FILE A CRIMINAL CHARGE. A CIVIL ENFORCEMENT ACTION IS NOT A PREREQUISITE TO THE FILING OF A CRIMINAL CHARGE.
- 6. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THE FINAL DECISIONS OF THE HEARING OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-124.
 - Sec. 2. Existing procedures
- This act does not require changes to procedures in effect before the effective date of this act.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 26, 2001.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 27, 2001.

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Secretary of State

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

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